

REMARKS

Claims 20 to 28 and 30 to 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katz (6,161,478). Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katz in view of Rau et al. (5,784,957).

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 20 to 28 and 30 to 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katz (6,161,478). Claim 29 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Katz in view of Rau et al. (5,784,957).

Claim 20 recites “a fluid supply regulation unit, the fluid supply regulation unit regulating a fluid pressure inside the at least one inflatable bladder to alter a compressibility of the blanket cylinder.”

Claim 30 recites the step of “adjusting a compressibility of the blanket cylinder.”

Katz does not disclose altering or adjusting the compressibility of a cylinder at all. In fact, the anilox coating of the Katz cylinder is hard and not capable of having an adjustable compressibility.

Compressibility of a blanket cylinder as known to one of skill in the art is the capability of the blanket to compress during printing. The Katz hard anilox coating is not compressible at all in this sense, and certainly the compressibility is not altered. This is clear as the pressure in Katz is applied just at the ends, and not in the middle. If the structure were compressible the anilox coating would shatter. The anilox coating at column 1, line 43 is described as a delicate ceramic coating.

Withdrawal of the rejection to claims 20 and 30 and their dependent claims is respectfully requested.

The limitations of claims 31 and 32 are also not shown in Katz.

Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request such action.

Respectfully submitted,

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